

Message on the Observance of Easter, 2002

March 27, 2002

I send greetings to everyone observing Easter this year. During this joyful season of new life and renewal, Christians around the world celebrate the central event of their faith—the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, whom Christians believe is the Messiah, the Son of God.

The life and teachings of Jesus have inspired people throughout the ages to strive for a better world and a more meaningful life. Jesus' death stands out in history as the perfect example of unconditional love. The four Gospels of the Christian Bible recount Jesus' amazing life, his miraculous death, resurrection, and ascension, and his unending offer of salvation to all. The story of Jesus' wondrous resurrection comes alive again for Christians each year at Easter.

Easter Sunday commemorates in song and celebration the joy and promise of Christ's triumph over evil and death. Christians around the world gather together to sing well-loved hymns to God's glory, remembering the signs and wonders of God's grace revealed in Jesus. And they again will hear Gospel readings such as Saint Luke's rendering of that first Easter morning when the Angel asked: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!"

Easter's message of renewal is especially meaningful now during this challenging time in our Nation's history. On September 11, 2001, America suffered devastating loss. In the wake of great evil, however, Americans responded with strength, compassion, and generosity. As we fight to promote freedom around the world and to protect innocent lives in America, we remember the call of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*: "As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free."

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a wonderful Easter.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks at a Fundraiser for Senatorial Candidate Saxby Chambliss in Atlanta

March 27, 2002

Thank you all very much. Saxby, thanks. I am honored that so many showed up. I want to thank you for such a warm welcome. I'm here to deliver this message: Saxby Chambliss needs to be in the United States Senate. And I'm so pleased you agree with me. *[Laughter]*

First, I want to thank Julianne. One of the things I've learned is that a life in the public arena is a lot easier when you've got a great wife. He married above himself, and so did I. *[Laughter]* We both married schoolteachers. And like Saxby is proud of Julianne, I'm really proud of Laura. I wish she were here tonight. She's in Crawford, Texas. The two dogs and the cat—*[laughter]*—went down to Crawford, because that's where I'm headed after this event. I love my job. But even though I've changed addresses, my home is still in the heart of Texas.

I want to thank Saxby's mother for being here. She informed me when she came through to get her picture taken that she was here, but she was a Democrat. *[Laughter]* I said that didn't bother me one bit. *[Laughter]* I never would have gotten to be the Governor of Texas had not a lot of Democrats voted for me. *[Laughter]* It doesn't matter whether you're Republican or Democrat when it comes to doing the right thing for the country and the right thing for our democracy. We welcome all people; we welcome anybody.

And looking at the mother reminds me to remind all the youngsters here to listen to your mother. I'm still listening to mine. *[Laughter]* I'm listening to her most of the time—don't tell her I said that. *[Laughter]*

I want to thank Bo Callaway for being the master of ceremonies. I appreciate his long service to the United States of America. I want to thank Congressmen Barr and Collins, Deal, Linder, and Norwood, fine, fine members of the congressional delegation from the great State of Georgia, members with whom I enjoy working, members who represent your State in a proud way. And I appreciate you letting somebody from the State of Ohio